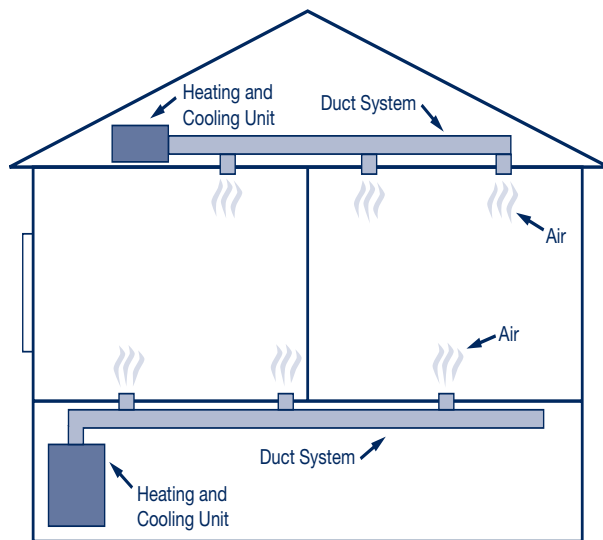


Don't Let **Leaky Ducts** Drain Your **Wallet**

Have you ever stopped to consider the process that heats your home in the dead of winter and cools it during the treacherous summer heat? If you are like most people, just being comfortable is your bottom line.

Your home's duct system circulates warm and cool air throughout your home. An ENERGY STAR Duct System can safely and efficiently keep your home feeling fresh and comfortable year-round — and save you money too!

The following diagram shows two common placements for duct systems.



Ducts can be located either in your basement, attic or in a conditioned space. The heating and cooling system is connected to the duct system enabling it to heat and cool your home. Since air is invisible, you cannot distinguish between efficient and inefficient ducts by simply looking at them. However, there are tests that a certified contractor can perform to determine whether your family will be more comfortable and safer with ENERGY STAR Ducts.

What is the **ENERGY STAR® Label**?

The ENERGY STAR Label helps consumers recognize energy-efficient products that help save money on utility bills. The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and the Department of Energy (DOE) created the ENERGY STAR label as the symbol for energy efficiency because of the direct link between wasted energy and air pollution. Manufacturers and builders voluntarily display the label on products and new homes that meet high efficiency ENERGY STAR guidelines, including heating and cooling equipment, household appliances, TVs, VCRs, residential light fixtures and new homes.



Are Your Ducts in a Row?

DRAFT



ENERGY STAR® Ducts
Protect your family
and save money.

What Are **Benefits** of **ENERGY STAR® Ducts**?

✓ **Save Money!**

Leaking ducts can decrease the overall efficiency of your heating and cooling system by as much as 20 percent. ENERGY STAR Duct improvements increase efficiency and lower your energy bills. The typical family could save up to \$150 annually.

✓ **Get Your Money's Worth!**

The heating or cooling equipment you purchased for your home came with an energy efficiency rating. The higher rating typically results in a larger initial investment by you. Here's the catch — no matter how energy-efficient your equipment is, it will not perform at its best if the ducts are leaky. Be sure to get what you pay for by complementing your efficient equipment purchase with properly sealed ducts.

✓ **Health!**

Air may leak into your duct system if it is not sealed properly. This can be harmful to your health because air leaks in the return duct may contain fumes from household and garden chemicals, insulation particles, and dust. These items can aggravate existing asthma and allergy problems. Why take the risk? By simply upgrading the energy efficiency of your duct system, you can avoid potential health problems.

✓ **Comfort!**

Duct leaks and improper duct sizing can affect the comfort level in your home by keeping some places cooler or warmer than others. The source of discomfort in your home may be leaky ducts or improper sizing. Sealing your ducts can help you breathe easier by improving your indoor air quality, reducing the risk of pollutants entering and circulating through your home. They also save energy and money.

✓ **Safety!**

Safety in your home is your number one priority. Duct leaks can cause equipment to backdraft (when combustion gases flow back into your home, instead of out the vents). If fireplaces, wood stoves, water heaters, furnaces, clothes dryers or other combustion devices are in these depressurized areas, invisible gases, such as carbon monoxide (CO), can backdraft into your home instead of going up the chimney. Make the smart choice and choose ENERGY STAR Ducts.

✓ **Protect the Environment!**

Energy generation and use is the single largest contributor to air pollution. If you're wasting up to 20 percent of your heating and cooling systems' performance through leaky ducts, your home is using more energy to get the same job done. By sealing your ducts and reducing the amount of energy necessary to comfortably heat or cool your home, you will reduce the amount of air pollution generated.



Saving money and protecting your family are high priorities. Many factors affect the efficiency of your ducts such as climate, location of your ducts, and the amount of insulation around your ducts. Start Saving Today. **To learn more about ENERGY STAR Ducts, or to determine whether your home is a good candidate for duct sealing, visit www.energystar.gov/ducts**